



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL AIR WEAPONS STATION

1 ADMINISTRATION CIRCLE
CHINA LAKE, CA 93555-6100

IN REPLY REFER TO:

11011

Ser ARE2P/617

September 30, 2015

California Department of Water Resources
Attn: Sustainable Groundwater Management Section
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236

Dear Sir or Madam:

SUBJECT: DRAFT LIST OF CRITICALLY OVERDRAFTED BASINS

Reliable water supplies are vital to the military mission in California. The Indian Wells Valley (IWV) groundwater basin is the sole source of potable water supporting Naval Air Weapons Station (NAWS) China Lake and our local communities. Given our total dependence on the IWV groundwater basin, NAWS China Lake has long been concerned with sustainable groundwater management demonstrated by our participation in the Cooperative Groundwater Management Group and substantial investments in water conservation measures that have reduced NAWS water consumption by 50% since 2003.

With the continued increase in IWV basin groundwater use and the corresponding decline in monitoring well levels over time, NAWS China Lake recognizes the need for action. In that the "Critically Over-Drafted Basin" designation will expedite the deadline for submission of a plan to achieve sustainable groundwater use, and provide a source of funds to support the formation of an IWV Groundwater Sustainability Agency, we believe that it is beneficial.

The Navy will continue to support Kern County and our other partners to establish and implement a Groundwater Sustainability Agency. We are grateful for the leadership the State is providing to help us achieve a sustainable source of water

11011

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allowing NAWS China Lake to continue to provide cutting edge weapons research, testing and development that protects our Nation's service members.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. A. Wiley', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

R. A. WILEY

Captain, U.S. Navy
Commanding Officer